

THE DIDSBURY REVIEW

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2005

1903-2004

61¢ + GST



Farm and Ranch Bonspiel

Chris Fox delivers one of the first stones as the 11th annual Didsbury Farm and Ranch Bonspiel gets underway. Curling action is on all week at the Didsbury Curling Club.

photo by Matt Karlowsky

Catholics have second chance at vote

by Tamara Collins

Didsbury's Catholic residents may be given a second chance to vote on the Red Deer Catholic School Division expanding into Didsbury.

An organizational meeting was held on Thursday night where it was decided that a decision on a second vote would come after a telephone campaign was done. Starting right away members of St. Anthony's Church will start calling local Catholic residents to see

if they would attend a second vote.

"St. Anthony's Church initiated this process," said Vince Ackerman, Red Catholic Regional Division (RDCRD). "They are going to start the phone calls right away and we should have a decision on a second vote this Thursday or next."

Residents had a chance to vote this past November, but not enough Catholics showed up. In order for the vote to count, 105 Catholics, 25% of the Catholic population in Didsbury must at-

tend the vote. In November the Catholics fell just short of that number.

"If we feel the support is there a second vote night will be held at the end of January or beginning of February," said Ackerman.

Chinook's Edge School Board Chairman Roy Brassard is not in favor of the expansion because of the effect he believes it will have on the students. Brassard says it would make more sense for the private and separate boards to share a school instead of shipping

Didsbury children to Olds.

"We could coordinate a budget and use better the resources we have," said Brassard. "Two sets of buses does not make sense, we should better utilize the dollars available. A joint school makes much more sense."

Brassard said he did approach RDCRD about the possibility of a joint school and they had no interest in that.

Brassard said he would like to see religion taught in CESD, and after two years

of research a religion program will possibly be introduced into schools in the new year.

If the second vote happens and the majority is in favor of the expansion Brassard would legally automatically become a member of the Catholic School District, every Catholic in the area would. Brassard would then not legally be able to stay on the CESD board.

"I don't intend to step down," said Brassard. "They would have to take me down."

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NEWS

Grow operation uncovered

by Carla Victor

Information obtained during "Project Kottage" has led to the seizure of another marijuana grow operation and the arrest of two Olds residents, Dec. 29.

"Project Kottage" was a RCMP drug-related investigation that led to a series of arrests 150 charges against 43 Central Albertans in mid November.

During this latest bust, Olds RCMP, in conjunction with the Southern Alberta Marijuana Interdiction Team (a.k.a. The Green Team), executed a search warrant on a rural residence suspected of growing marijuana.

Cpl. Jeff Mercier, Olds RCMP, said marijuana plants, cannabis resin (valued in the tens of thousands of dollars) drug paraphernalia, five rifles and one loaded handgun were seized from the rural residence, north of Olds.

Mercier said the weapons seized were not unlike those found in many rural residences.

"The weapons were not to be used against us, they were just unsecured fire arms. The only one out of the norm was the loaded handgun," said Mercier.

He said arrests were made without incident, at a later time.

"I think it was a case of them going out for breakfast and coming home to find us," said Mercier.

Charged with 13 drug and weapons offences is Terry Tracy Wickwire, 44, of Olds. Also charged on three counts of drug offences was Shelia Viver, 49, of Olds.

Wickwire's charges include: production of cannabis marijuana and cannabis resin; possession for the purpose of trafficking; storing

a restricted firearm in a careless manner; possession of a restricted weapon without holding a licence; possession of a restricted weapon knowing that possession is not authorized; unauthorized possession of firearms (times three); knowing possession of firearms is unauthorized (times three) and

breach of probation.

Viver's charges include: production of cannabis marijuana and cannabis resin and possession for the purpose of trafficking.

Both have been released to appear in Didsbury Provincial Court on Jan. 24.



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335-3941

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556-6500

Annual Meeting & Volunteer Committee Members

Mountain View Community Hall

January 17, 2005

7:30 PM

Thank you for your time in advance

Didsbury Elks #514 BUDDY / INFORMATION NIGHT

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1903-2005

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MAD COW CRISIS

US announces border will partially re-open in March

by Carla Victor

News of the U.S. border opening to cattle under 30 months of age, March 7, has Government officials ecstatic and producers cautiously optimistic.

One day after the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) announcement that Canada is considered a "Minimal Risk Region" and thus will allow the trade of cattle under 30 months of age over its border, another "suspect" case of BSE surfaced in a 10-year-old Alberta cow.

Reports that followed what would be the third case of BSE from Canada (if tests are conclusive) stated the USDA knew of this cow before they made their announcement.

"If this animal proves to be positive, it would not alter the implementation of the U.S. rule announced (Dec. 29) that recognizes Canada as a minimal risk region," said Dr. Ron DeHaven, U.S. administrator of Animal Health Inspection Services. "In the extensive risk analysis conducted as part of the rule making, we considered the possibility of additional cases of BSE in Canada. Because of the mitigation measures that Canada has in place, we continue to believe the risk is minimal."

Wild Rose MP Myron Thompson has confidence in DeHaven's statements.

"I was assured that this was going to happen by the President himself. Let's just hope that this is a quick recovery. That's what we are hoping for now."

Olds/Didsbury/Three Hills MLA Richard Marz said this is certainly good news.

"There is always a chance (the new suspect case) will cause some other appeals by different groups down in the states that could cause delays, there are never guarantees, but early indications are that even though there are other suspect cases from the testing we do, those would not affect the process," said Marz.

He said a new suspect case is no surprise to anyone.

"Certainly once we went to increased testing we would find more. One, two or five are still very minimal with the number of cattle raised and processed in Alberta. "We weren't surprised there was more, the surprise should be there are as few as there have been."

"I understand, from what I've heard the Americans saying, is this should not have any affect on the plan for opening the border or delaying it in any way," said Marz.

Olds College staff say this news is good for Canada, the industry and certainly the college.

"It is good for the college, and especially our students as many come from agricultural backgrounds and homes," said Kerry Moynahan, director of marketing and government relations.

Moynahan said, through the College's submission to the USDA during its comment period, he has heard countless stories of the significant impact of how the border closure is effecting students and their families.

"Many of our students had to take out student loans to pay for their education, when they couldn't sell that bull," he said. "This is a great Christmas present."

"We concur with remarks made that Canada has operated on the assumption that there was probably some low-level exposure to BSE in North America and that more cases might likely be found in older cows such as in this most recent (suspect) case."

"We were pleased to hear comments made by the USDA that Canada is recognized as a minimal risk region for BSE, in part, because of the measures taken to prevent the spread of the disease."

But after 19 months of border closure, producers are still cautious, many of them won't celebrate until the first cow crosses the border on March 7.

"I'll be happy when that first cow makes it over the border," said one producer, who didn't want to be named.

For Kelly Sande, an Eagle Hill rancher, it has been 19 months since the call came from the Olds Auction Market to pick up his cattle - the sale they were intended for had been cancelled due to reports of the Mad Cow found in Alberta.

That was the first Sande had heard of BSE. Now, embarking on a new year, Sande is still cautious about the latest news.

"I don't know what will happen with the so-called suspected cow they found. I've been told it won't make a difference, but you have to

be cautious when it comes to dealing with other people."

He said the last 19 months have drastically changed his cattle operation.

"I quit running my little feed lot, I just didn't feel there would be enough profit margin so I shut it down and started to market feed and go in that direction."

Many would say that was a good call on Sande's part, with everyone stuck holding on to their cattle, but when the border opens, "the guys who bought all the cattle are going to look like geniuses and I'm going to look like an idiot because I didn't put anything in this year either," laughed Sande.

"But I'm still not convinced (the border) is going to open. I think there is enough protectionism south of the border, that there is going to be some more problems come up."

"I want to see the dust settle before I'm going to jump back into things again."

Sande cautions he isn't speaking for everyone in the industry.

"I have neighbours who didn't let up much and they still seem to be chugging along, doing all right. I'm probably one of the few who pulled back and shut down to wait and see. I never liked working for nothing."

Alberta Agriculture is predicting that those who did hang on will be rewarded, March 7, as they expect the trade of cattle under 30 months of age to be 95 per cent of what it was, before the border was closed.

Terry Willock, Alberta Agriculture, is confident the border will open without further delay.

"We are pretty confident the rules outlined in the 500 page document making up the USDA rule to open the border will pretty much cover any angles (to delay the process)."

Jack Daines, Innisfail Auction Market, has full confidence in the process to open the border.

"I'm thrilled. This will once again put value on farmland, cow herds and everything else associated with cattle."

When asked if the cattle industry can recover he answered: "Absolutely! Whether you feed cattle, sell cattle, buy cattle or just eat it, this is great news that can only help us move forward."

With files by Dan Singleton and Liz Driscoll

TOWN OF DIDSBURY

Town will no longer pay for policing

by Tamara Collins

The Didsbury Town Council is excited that the province will assume full financial responsibility for policing in Didsbury on April 1, 2005. "We are the only one in the detachment presently paying for policing," said mayor Dorothy Moore. "Olds is also alone paying in their detachment. It is a huge burden."

According to Brenda Hemming, director of Corporate Services, in total for 2003 the Town paid \$424,688, almost 8 per cent of the budget. Other

towns in the Province such as Lach La Beche are presently paying 46% of their budget on policing.

Now that this money will be freed up Moore says some of it will go towards the Town's 30 year plan to redo the underground infrastructure.

"We will maximize the infrastructure dollars and grants and look at a financial management plan," said Town CAO Brian Irvine. "In January council will set priorities and decide what we would like to change, by then we should have a good idea of where we sit."

Local citizens assist RCMP in arrest

by Tamara Collins

The Didsbury RCMP charged a 39 year old man with twenty-three counts of Break and Enter and one count of possession of break-in tools following a lengthy shop breaking investigation involving businesses throughout Alberta.

Richard James Lofvendahl was arrested on Nov. 1st in Didsbury after RCMP observed a suspicious vehicle earlier the same night in Olds. While making patrols Didsbury Citizens on Patrol (COP) were located and notified of the vehicle's description. COP was able to assist the RCMP in locating the suspect's vehicle within minutes.

Jason Darryl Cotter of Red Deer and Lofvendahl were found hiding inside the vehicle on 16th St. and 18th Ave and were taken into custody. Jason Cotter

was subsequently charged with and convicted of several offences, including possession of break-in tools and personation. Cotter appeared in Didsbury Provincial Court on Nov. 17th and was sentenced to serve three months on each charge.

Lofvendahl is scheduled to make a second appearance on these charges in the Didsbury Court on Jan. 12th. He is alleged to have committed the break-ins between Nov. 2003 and Oct. 2004. These break-ins occurred in Wetaskiwin, Caroline, Bowden, Didsbury, Castor, Sylvan Lake, Red Deer, Bentley, Eckville, Three Hills and Innisfail.

The Didsbury RCMP detachment would like to thank the numerous community volunteers including the Citizens on Patrol and Rural Crime Watch for their limitless efforts in protecting the community.

OPINIONS EDITORIAL

Volunteering



TAMARA COLLINS
EDITORIAL

Something I hear very often is "We need more volunteers!" Volunteering is something everyone should be involved in whether it is at your local hospital, museum, school, library, they are needed everywhere.

Without volunteers many things would not be possible, and volunteering is a two way street.

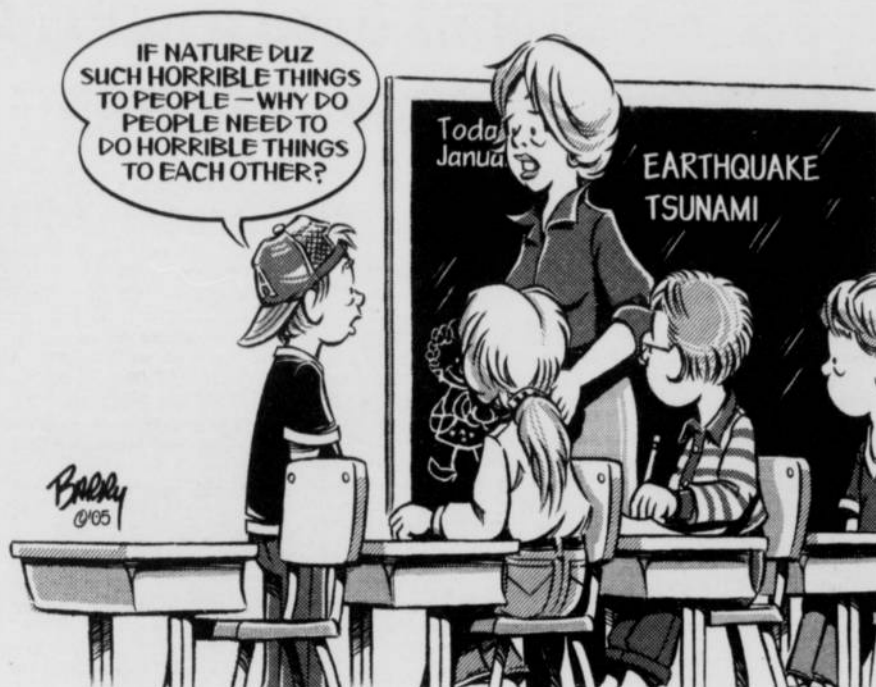
Volunteers make things possible, they help others, they benefit the community, they help our children and seniors,

and it makes you feel great!

What feels better than leaving somewhere after working hard strictly for the benefit of helping out.

What a great New Years resolution, start volunteering! Pick a place that you would find interesting and get going.

The time commitment can work around your schedule. It is always important to have something to be proud of.



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Ponderings of the heart

by Margaret Fradley

"A Blessed New Year to All"

The New year has crept up on us once again. As we look towards the future, we have many memories of the past year, times of sorrow, difficult decisions that had to be made, times when we wondered if we could make it. Our memory banks, however, are also full of times of joy, times when we discovered there was a way out, times when there were beautiful moments in our lives. Yes, our memory banks are full.

Now we look forward to a New Year, some with anticipation, some with an element of uncertainty, but many of us with hopes of a better and brighter year, a year when situations around the world, in our countries, our communities, our neighborhoods and our homes would bring fresh hope for better things to come.

Let us come into the New Year with a prayer on our lips and in our hearts for a deeper sense of love for those around us, a greater sensitivity to those in need; a new awareness of what each of us can do to make our 'little world' just a little better; as the little hymn we used to sing as children, "You in your small corner and I in mine", so let our light shine. We can make a difference, let this New Year be a special one. God's best for each and every one.

Same-Sex Marriage

A recent Supreme Court decision has once again brought the issue of same-sex marriages to the media forefront. As your MLA, I want to take this opportunity to let you know what this recent decision means for the province. As well, I want to address the efforts the government is taking to oppose same-sex marriage.

The Government of Alberta has continually defended the traditional definition of marriage, believing that marriage is deeply rooted in history, culture and religion and is a bond between a man and a woman.

It was this belief that encouraged Alberta to intervene in the Supreme Court case, where the Province argued to uphold the traditional definition of marriage.

Even with our intervention, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled on December 9, 2004 that the federal government has exclusive jurisdiction over whether same-sex couples can marry.

The Court did rule that solemnization - or how people are married - is a matter of provincial jurisdiction. However, the

federal government is planning to introduce legislation that changes the definition of marriage to include same-sex couples. The Court clearly said that even though Alberta is responsible for how people get married, proposed federal legislation will result in Alberta being required to issue licences and register same-sex marriages.

Alberta is considering what the Supreme Court decision means for its provincial Marriage Act. Alberta does not have the ability to invoke the notwithstanding clause to prevent federal legislation from applying in Alberta.

Since the Court ruled that authority over same-sex marriage belongs to the federal government, it is only Ottawa that can invoke the notwithstanding clause to maintain the traditional definition of marriage.

Recently, I met with my government colleagues to review what options are available to maintain the traditional definition of marriage. There was unanimous agreement among government members to continue to use all legal and political means available to us.

The Premier has written to the Prime Minister encouraging him to allow Members of Parliament the opportunity to canvass their constituents and vote on proposed legislation according to that input. It is the view of the Premier and his government colleagues that on an issue as important as marriage, which defines our social fabric, the definition should come from our citizens and elected officials. If Parliament does not provide direction on this issue it will be left to the courts to define marriage. Citizens must have a say.

Regardless of your position on same-sex marriage, I believe you have the right to have a say in fundamental changes to society. That is why apart from expressing your views to your MLA, I encourage you to contact your local Member of Parliament who represents you in Ottawa, as well as the Prime Minister.

It is important the federal government consider the varied opinions of Canadians when they bring a Bill to the House and your voice is heard in the House of Commons.

Sincerely,
Richard Marz, MLA



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FROM THE MAILBAG

This is not a war of liberation

Dear Mr. Quinn,

Your recent letter - published in the December 22nd issue of the Review - shows a complete misunderstanding of America's imperial war in Iraq. Mr. Quinn, this is not a war of liberation, but rather an illegal occupation solely designed to fulfill American interests.

In the late 1980's, Saddam Hussein was originally an ally of the United States. So what about the Kurdish problem then? An article published in the Los Angeles Times on February 16, 1998 (authored by Robin Wright) strongly indicates that the U.S. knew Iraq was using chemical weapons on the Kurdish population in the northern part of the country. In 1988, the engagement of chemical weapons against Kurdish civilians was even documented by the UN, but America was more interested in protecting its oil exports.

In exchange for oil - America, Britain, France, and many other western nations continued to ship a massive quantity of arms to Iraq throughout the 1980s. The overwhelming purpose of these back-alley arms deals was to neutralize Iraq's long-standing enemy - Iran. However, American imports included several Hughes MD-500 Defender helicopters, which were used to dispel chemical weapons against the Kurds. American weapons exports to Iraq actually increased - even after a U.S. Senate staff delegation visited Kurdistan in 1987, where scores of abandoned villages, orchards, and pastures were discovered. The close relationship between the U.S. and Iraq only soured when Hussein began to make specific geostrategic

errors.

Hussein invaded tiny authoritarian Kuwait (originally part of Iraq) in 1990, to control the Rumaila oilfields and convince Kuwait to follow OPEC's oil production quotas. America found this situation problematic only because their Middle Eastern oil taps were threatened. So Bush Sr. sent in the troops to "liberate" Kuwait and punish Iraq. For several years afterwards, Iraq was pummeled with a host of economic sanctions. Briefly, a light at the end of the tunnel appeared in 2000 when Hussein began to trade oil for Euros instead of U.S. dollars.

This angered Bush Jr. and his Republican comrades, because it undermined America's dominance in the international marketplace.

The so-called war on terror is in reality a battle to preserve an oil thirsty empire. Evidence of a colonial-styled

build-up in Iraq is easily found. For example, the amount of security contractors use to safeguard oil pipelines is staggering. According to Al Jazeera, on December 13 a gang of retired Colombian policemen were hired by Halliburton (Vice President Dick Cheney was Halliburton's former CEO) to protect its oil industry. These men will be paid a monthly \$7,000 salary to ensure that a few more of Iraq's oil pipelines will not be disrupted by "terrorists."

Mr. Quinn, if you want to get the real score about the murderous war in Iraq, I highly advocate the book *Behind the War on Terror* by Nafeez Mosaddeq Ahmed. This book is a rare and genuine account of America's contemporary imperial adventure, and its

thoroughly referenced contents will astound you.

In the meantime, in order to find out the authentic reality of America's outlandish relationship with the Mid-

die East I strongly counsel you to look far beyond the unappetizing scraps given to you by today's mainstream media.

Dan Archer



Don't be singing the blues over a lost pet... place a FREE Lost & Found Ad in

The Didsbury

REVIEW

335-3301

PUBLIC NOTICE

Gerard Kulcsar

WATER ACT

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

Notice is given that Gerard Kulcsar has filed an application for an approval under the provisions of the *Water Act* to construct an access road through and the removal of peat from a peat bog wetland. The finished road will be approximately 660' long and 90' wide (total of 59,400 square feet). The location of where the work will take place is NW 19-31-4-W5.

Any person who is directly affected by the application may submit a statement of concern to:

Alberta Environment
Southern Region
2938 11th Street NE
Calgary, AB T2E 7L7
Phone: (403) 297-6582
Fax: (403) 297-2749

within 7 days of the providing of this notice for the application for approval.

Please quote file number: 00215475

Further information regarding this project can be obtained from:

Gerard Kulcsar
Box 4, Site 5, RR1
Didsbury, Alberta
T0M 0W0
Phone: (403) 369-6622

Statements filed regarding this application are public records, which are accessible by the public.

Failure to file statements of concerns may affect the right to file a notice of appeal with the Environment Appeal Board.

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or Nana at 403-556-6347 or e-mail at olds@internaltaichi.com <mailto:olds@internaltaichi.com>.

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Recycling Centre 335-3391
Chamber of Commerce Office 335-3265
Didsbury Aquatic Centre Schedule 335-8653
Memorial Complex & Aquatic Centre 335-7369
Rosebud Valley Campground 335-8578

PUBLIC MEETINGS & NOTICES

NEW MEETING DAY: COUNCIL NOW MEETS EVERY THREE WEEKS ON TUESDAYS!

TOWN COUNCIL:
Tuesday, January 25, 2005 - Council Chambers, 7:00 pm
MUNICIPAL PLANNING COMMISSION:
Wednesday, January 19, 2005 - Council Chambers, 4:30 pm

NEW DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATIONS

The following Development Permits have been issued for the following proposed developments:

- DP 112-04 1912 - 20 Street Change of use with conditions C1
- DP 113-04 1702 - 27 Avenue Industrial Storage with conditions I2

Further information may be obtained at the Town Office. Person(s) wishing to appeal any of these decisions must do so in writing with the appropriate fees to the secretary, Development Appeal Board, prior to 4:30 pm on **January 19, 2005**.
Robert Wigg, Development Officer

NEWS

Christmas light contest winners



Little House in town winner: 2105 20th Ave.



Big House winner in town: 8 Westwood Dr.

4-H Update

Hello every one, sorry that this is not out earlier. I am very pleased to tell you we have a new Leader, Lexi Wright. She was a member of the Mountain View Dairy for many years. She is currently working at Alta Genetics. We would all like to thank Caroline Folkerts for being a great leader to us for the past two years.

Our new board for the 2004/2005 year is as follows.

LEADER: Lexi Wright
ASSISTANT LEADERS:
Shannon Copithorne and
Joanne Wouters.

PRESIDENT: Pascal
Wouters

VICE PRESIDENT:
Jeanette Wouters

SECRETARY: Shae Copithorne

TREASURER: Peter
Jakobsen

CLUB REPORTER:
Laura Iversen HISTORIAN:
Carien Huyzer

We would also like to welcome four new members this year Iris Bottenberg, Marieke Huyzer, Willem Kwakernaak and Dillon Sietzema.

Our first judging meeting was held at the Huyzer farm. We had a great turn out. Mrs. Huyzer made us a great lunch thank you. We would also like to thank our two judges Dr. Gordon Atkins and Eric Taylor for doing a great job.

you're invited...

The Calgary Health
Region

invites you to attend
a community information
session on plans for
continuing care (long
term care and other living
options) for the Didsbury
community.

Monday, January 10

7:00 - 8:30pm

**Zion Evangelical
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calgary health region

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Neighborhood

Olds collects donations to aid victims of the tsunami/earthquake



photo by Susiri Hoare

by Carla Victor

An international charitable organization, whose Canadian division is based in Olds, is collecting donations to aid victims of the tsunami/earthquake in Sri Lanka and India.

MEDIC (Mercy Economic Development International Corporation) is a Christian charitable organization based in seven countries including Canada, India and Sri Lanka. MEDIC's headquarters has been based in Olds for the past two years.

Robin Knudsen, vice president of MEDIC, said this organization has direct ties to victims in these two countries that have been horribly affected

by one of the largest natural disasters in history.

Pauline Hoare, president of MEDIC Canada, said 99 per cent of every donation will be utilized by victims in Sri Lanka and India.

"We have already been able to set up two camp kitchens and supply food and clothes with money already made available," said Hoare.

She received an e-mail from a MEDIC director, based in Sri Lanka, detailing the destruction that had occurred on Boxing Day, the same day the tsunami hit. Hoare replied that help would be coming immediately.

The e-mail read: "a major calamity has occurred in all

coastal areas of Sri Lanka, you may have already heard on international news stations.

"We were in Church this morning when this happened, our church being situated near the Hamilton Canal, which falls into the Kelani River (one of the five major rivers in Sri Lanka) a couple of hundred feet from our church which in turn runs into the sea a few hundred feet from there. When we came out to see, the water level of the canal had almost reached the church, and we quickly went back in and started praying. When we came out, the water level had receded, which enabled us to send everyone home. The area called Palliyawatta, which is covered by the sea on

one side, and the Hamilton Canal on the other, has gone about three feet under water. A home for mentally disabled children in this area has been affected, and (approximately) six children were washed away in the tidal wave."

The letter went on to describe the destruction, how friends and church families fled to higher ground and what their needs will be.

"I seek your prayers and assistance in this moment of national need, to help those affected. We are doing whatever possible right now, but would appreciate any support that can be extended, in monetary form in order to supply dry rations and other essential needs of the affected peoples. Also, please pray

that we will be able to overcome this disaster situation, and that such a situation will not arise again."

Susiri Hoare said the second e-mail in answer to her response was that they were thrilled someone was doing something immediately and caring about them all.

People wishing to help can donate money to a trust fund set up at the Toronto Dominion Bank in Olds or mail cheques to MEDIC Canada, 118 A - 6108 53 St. Olds T4H 1P1 (include a return address for tax receipts).

Hoare will be travelling to Sri Lanka in February to see what MEDIC's donations are enabling survivors to accomplish and determine what more is needed, at that time.



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Faces



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by Tamara Collins

Regional StarSkate Run-offs coming to Didsbury



Joyce McCoy

The Didsbury Skating Club will be hosting the Provincial Regional StarSkate Run-offs Figure Skating Competition on Jan. 14th to 16th.

This is the second time Didsbury has held this competition, the first time was five years ago. All the winners of this competition will advance on to the StarSkate Provincial Finals.

In total there will be 250 skaters competing, between the ages of four and 18 years old, as well as coaches, judges, family members and skating enthusiasts.

The event will showcase the talent of skaters within

our region which runs north to Wetaskiwin, south to Carstairs, west to the Rocky Mountains and east to the Saskatchewan border.

Sixteen local girls will be competing in the competition. It is a co-ed competition, but Didsbury has only girls competing.

"We have people coming from all over," said Joyce McCoy. "Millet, Rocky Mountain House, Camrose, Sundre, Red Deer, just to name a few place."

Volunteers are greatly needed to help out this weekend, so if are interested please contact Joyce McCoy at 335-9861.

"We encourage people to come out and watch," said McCoy. "It is going to be lots of fun and it is free to come. We are excited to see the local kids skate and go onto provincials."

Provincials will be held the first week in March in Whitecourt.

"The biggest part of the competition will be the free skate," said McCoy. "They will also compete in pre-preliminary, elements, interpretive free skate, skating skills, and the little ones will be doing a spin spiral jump, which is very cute to watch."

Prizes and raffles will be given out at the event.

Hunter goes to the All-stars

Randy Hunter, Rhonda and Greg Hunter's son, has been selected from his team, the Extreme, to play in their league's All-star game in Leduc on Saturday.

"They pick all the best players in the league to go to the All-star game," said Hunter. "I am in the Alberta Major Bantam Hockey League."

This league consists of 13 and 14 year olds.

"It is my first time on the team," said Hunter. "My

coach picked two of us to go to this game, I was surprised."

Lucas Mickelsen will also be going.

"We are going down on Friday, where we will meet the team and have a practice," said Hunter. "I will be playing with guys I usually compete against."

After only the one practice, the team will play their game Saturday afternoon.

"It will be neat to meet the guys I usually play against,"

said Hunter. "I am looking forward to going."

Hunter has been playing hockey for the past 7 years.

"I really enjoy the sport," said Hunter. "Maybe one day I will play on the WHL or something."

Hunter was chosen to play in the All-star game because he is the higher scoring defenseman.

"I was still surprised because there are a lot of other guys who are with higher teams," said Hunter. "It will also be nice to display my skills."



Randy Hunter

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NEIGHBORHOOD

2004 Year in Review

MVTA presents County with petition in January

Dec. 23, at the Mountain View County (MVC) meeting, the Mountain View Taxpayers Association (MVTA) presented the County with their petition to stop the new administration building from being built.

In total the petition collected 1,775 signatures.

Before presenting the petition, the MVTA spokesperson, Henry Kuelker, asked council if they could explain why in 1999, the estimate to renovate the current County administration building was \$796,000,

and the present quote is \$1,850,000.

County Reeve, Ian Harvie said they did not have that information available at that time, but would have it early in the new year.

"We have invested a lot of time on this," said Kathy Blain, MVTA secretary. "We hope you will listen to us so peace and harmony can come back into our county."

The petition states, "Pursuant to section 232 of the Municipal Government Act 2000 R.S.A. c. M-

26, as amended, the undersigned petitioners hereby petition the Municipal Council of Mountain View County for a binding plebiscite to approve a new municipal bylaw prohibiting the sufficiency of this petition, from entering into any agreement for the acquisition of any land or construction of any building with a cost of, one million five hundred thousand dollars (1.5 million dollars) or more."

MVTA members went door to door for the past month and a half collecting signatures for the petition.



On Jan. 26th, with temperatures dropping below 30 degrees, a Canadian Pacific Railway train derailed in Didsbury near Masterfeeds. CPR crews worked through the night, to clear the wreckage and repair the rail line.

MVSH and the CHR form a unique partnership in February

Mountain View Senior Housing and the Calgary Health Region (CHR) have partnered up in Didsbury to provide additional continuing care services in a more home-like environment.

In 1999, a government committee chaired by Dave Broda outlined the needs and issues facing the aging population and made recommendations for continuing care reform. In April

2000, the government accepted the blueprint for reform in the Broda Report and set strategic directions to guide their implementation.

The blueprint included a shift in focus to enabling people to remain in their homes and other types of supported living arrangements, and allowing them to maintain their independence as long as possible.

In 2000, the Mountain View Senior's Housing Board (MVSHB) was granted funding through the Alberta Government's Healthy Aging Partnership Initiative Program to construct the Aspen Ridge Lodge. David Thompson Health Region (DTHR), in which Didsbury resided, made a commitment with MVSHB to fund 20 Designated Assisted Living (DAL) spaces at the new lodge.

Site selected for MVC administration building

The site for a new administration building has been approved by Mountain View County Council, during a special meeting, Feb. 3.

The new, single story building will be located east of the Olds/Didsbury Airport, adjacent to Highway 2A.

A service road will be built for access off the Bergen Road.

Temporary access off Highway 2A could have gotten approval by Alberta transportation, but was deemed too expensive, by the building committee, for a temporary access subject to provincial transportation restrictions.

Aspen Ridge Lodge welcomes its first residents in March



Winnie and Herman Wollen are the first residents to move into the Aspen Ridge Lodge on March 1st, 2004.

Marriage on the Rock

On March 7 people from all over Mountain View County (MVC) came together at Zion Evangelical Missionary Church to affirm the meaning of marriage. Concerned churches from MVC sponsored the event "Marriage on the Rock: Protecting an Institution in Crisis".

The evening started at 6 p.m. with a video presentation reminding everyone why they were there. Pastor Grant Sikstrom, Zion Church, then welcomed the crowd.

"Tonight we have the opportunity to be better informed and ask the hard questions," said Sikstrom. "By your presence here you are saying this issue matters to you, and by the end of the evening you will be inspired."

Bruce Clemenger was the evening's first keynote speaker. Clemenger has served on the staff of the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada since 1992 as the director of EFC's Centre for Faith and Public Life in Ottawa since 1996, and he became president in June 2003.

According to Clemenger,

there are 8.4 million households in Canada, approximately 70 percent (5.9 million) of them are rooted with the marriage between a man and a woman, 15.4 percent (1.3 million) are one parent households, 14 percent are opposite sex common-law relationships, and 0.5 percent (34,000) are same-sex couple households.

"All sides think marriage is a good thing and fundamental to society," said Clemenger. "The issue is about the nature and structure of marriage, not about sexual orientation. The root of marriage is one man and one woman."

Province comes through with Policing

Last week the Provincial budget announced \$58 million will go towards municipalities for new police funding. Included in this announcement it was declared that the province will now pay for policing in municipalities with populations below 5,000 people.

The Town of Didsbury was spending 22% of their budget on policing, before this announcement municipalities with a population over 2,500 were responsible for their own policing costs.

"This is big for communities of our size," said Didsbury Mayor Dorothy Moore.

Carstairs, who was expected to start paying for their policing next year, is also excited about the news.

"I think it's nice that the government is going to pay for these costs, but I hope they are going to make more money available, in the near future, to increase the size of the Didsbury RCMP detachment," said Carstairs Mayor Lance Colby.

Colby's comments come after a presentation was made to Town Council approximately one month ago, from Didsbury RCMP Sgt. Gerry Tonn, who explained there is a huge demand on the local detachment, yet very limited resources - such as the number of officers.

Tonn explained to council that there hasn't been a RCMP member increase since 1981, although the numbers in the detachment area have dramatically grown - especially in the last five years.

"I don't know any other company that hasn't seen an increase (in 23 years)," Tonn said.

Tonne, like Colby, believes that the Province needs to hire more officers, rather than just

taking over the basic policing costs.

"They may be taking a bigger bite and paying for more officers, but they still won't be putting any more officers on the street... which we really need," he said. "We are saddled with some very difficult decisions."

The Province's Solicitor General Heather Forsyth said, following the budget, that she too realized fighting crime take more time, and hopes Alberta can keep up with their track record of having one of the lowest crime rates in Canada.

"Alberta has the lowest crime rate in Western Canada and we intend to keep it that way," Forsyth said. "Our population is growing, crime is getting more complex and police require more time, resources, skills and technology to keep up with it."

Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills MLA Richard Marz says that he is pleased with the announcement of policing funding, and says it should assist many local municipalities.

"This announcement will assist many communities and allow them to use those funds, they once used for policing, to pay for much needed projects in their communities," Marz said.

Didsbury will use this extra money to fix the railway tracks and put some into infrastructure.

2004 Year in Review

Fire destroys Horse Barns at the Memorial Complex in April



On April 2nd the horse barns at the Memorial Complex in Didsbury lit up in flames. Fire crews were on scene within minutes, but were unable to save the wooden structures.



Emergency staff worked to free a motorist from wreckage on April 14th in Didsbury. Police say a southbound Taurus driver on Range Road 2.0 lost control and hit a Honda Accord. Dino Siemens, the driver of the Accord died at the scene.

MVRWS charged after alleged illegal disposal

Alberta Environment has laid charges on Mountain View Regional Water Services (MVRWS) and their employee Joe Vandenakerboom, operator, following an incident on April 6, 2002.

Allegedly Vandenakerboom made an illegal disposal by dumping a corrosion inhibitor into a drain connected to the water works system. This inhibitor made the drinking water that supplies Didsbury, Olds, Bowden, Carstairs and Innisfail, unfit.

"The contaminant was diluted by the water in the system," said Kim Hunt, spokesperson for Alberta Environment. "We take these matters very seriously even though it was diluted, this doesn't meet our standards."

Unit 3 closed in May

Residents and staff at the Didsbury Hospital take away good memories and friendships with the recent closing of Unit 3.

The last resident was moved out of the Unit at the end of April. It was believed that with the closing of the Unit some employees would be laid-off, but that didn't end up being the case. According to Becky Nickerson, Interm Site leader at the Hospital, no one was laid off.

"In the end no one lost their job," said Nickerson. "Some staff decided to leave, some went to work at the (Aspen Ridge) Lodge, and some took other jobs in other sites around the

area."

Although no one was laid-off some employees were effected by reduced hours.

"Some employee's hours were cut," said Nickerson. "But they still have the option of picking up casual hours. It is never desirable to have lay-offs, so we are happy with how things turned out."

Unit 3 residents were sad to say goodbye, but they were comforted by the staff who moved with them.

"Residents were sad, it was a home to many," said Nickerson. "It made it easier on them that the same staff moved with them, they still have them."

Morris Meadows on its way

Once an old dairy, now a big pile of wood, soon to be Didsbury's newest development. Morris Meadows is becoming more real everyday, especially now with the old barns torn down.

"Now that they are down, our next step will be clearing the land," said Gord Leeson, Royal Lepage Agent, and Morris Meadows marketer. "We have to get rid of all the old buildings before we can start the roadways."

Stripping for roadways will be the next step in the development. After that is complete the lots will be surveyed out.

In Phase one there will be 32 lots complete.

"After the roads are surveyed out we will start to put in the deep services," said Leeson. "That will include water and sewer."

Once all that is complete people can start building.

"We have several lots already spoken for," said Leeson. "If people are interested they should call me soon."

The building of houses is expected to start this July or August.

Half million dollar marijuana grow busted in Didsbury

Didsbury RCMP seized over

half a million dollars of marijuana plants in Didsbury Monday morning. A search warrant was executed late Sunday night, and according to the RCMP, a sophisticated marijuana drug grow was evident.

Over 500 plants in various grow stages were seized.

"It took till approximately noon to dismantle the grow," said Sgt. Tonn, of the Didsbury RCMP. "There was a good half million dollars of plants there."

23 year old Han Jie Guan of Calgary has been charged with cultivation of marijuana, under the Controlled Drug and Substance Act.

Cemetery vandalized in June

Monday morning town crews went to work and discovered the Didsbury Cemetery was vandalized. Sometime over the weekend someone(s), entered the cemetery and knocked over 11 tombstones.

Families of the damaged stones were immediately notified.

"We have not assessed the damage yet," said Town CAO, Brian Irvine. "Those are not cheap though."

Town crews fixed the stones the following day.

"This is very disappointing," said Irvine. "It is very disrespectful, I can't even find the accurate words. I would just like to have whoever did this turn themselves in or caught."

According to the Didsbury RCMP they have no suspects at this time.

New subdivision environmentally friendly

In only a few months time Didsbury will welcome its next newest subdivision, Deer Coulee Ranch (DCR).

Deer Coulee Ranch will be located on Herman and Shirley Dorin's land, SE quarter Section 18. The couple has owned this land since 1970.

"I have been dreaming about developing this land for 30 years," said Herman.

Herman has made his living mostly from cattle, since he stopped teaching in 1971. Prior to that Herman was a guidance councillor at Didsbury High School and Ross Ford. Shirley worked as a substitute teacher until about 2000.

"I am more a rancher than a farmer," said Herman. "We have not had the land cultivated."

Presently on the land, the Dorins' have cattle and horses.

"I knew this land had urban development possibilities when I first saw it," said Herman.

An area structure plan was done in 2002 by Jason Whitfield.

"Once we got Jason into things, everything went very fast," said Herman. "Jason and I have a similar approach to development. I wanted something unique with lots of open green space. Things got postponed in the past because there was no demand for development."

Instead of having allies between the houses, the Dorins' want green space.

"I am hoping that one day people will be able to walk from their lot over to where the rocks are," said Herman.

In Phase one there will be 25 lots.

Phase One will start, hopefully, in September and services

will start being added.

Fire sends woman to hospital

Last Tuesday night a fire broke out at a trailer in the Didsbury Trailer Court, sending one woman to the hospital.

The fire broke out at approximately 11:50 p.m. and the Didsbury RCMP, Fire Department, and the Mountain View EMS immediately responded.

"It is not a suspicious fire," said Sgt. Tonn of the Didsbury RCMP. "It was a non-criminal fire, perhaps electrical or structural."

A 45 year old woman was rescued from the fire by firefighters, and was later transported by EMS and then by STARS helicopter to the Foothills hospital in Calgary. The woman remains in critical condition due to smoke inhalation.



Conservative Myron Thompson, Wild Rose MP, won the federal election on June 27th. This is Thompson's 11th year in the Wild Rose seat.

2004 Year in Review

MVC proposes an offer to purchase the Olds/Didsbury Airport in July

The Olds/Didsbury Airport could soon see new ownership.

Mountain View County is considering buying the airport, after the Olds and Didsbury Towns came together and submitted a proposal to them.

A committee comprised of representatives from the three municipalities has been in discussions regarding the matter for several months.

During a special County council meeting Friday, county councillors passed a motion to have an offer to purchase prepared.

"The towns have been operating it and they wish to divest themselves of that airport. The county is look-

ing at it as a possible owner," said Reeve Ian Harvie.

The town's made the offer on July 13, prompting the county to make Friday's counter offer.

Neither party is divulging how much is being offered.

The one-paved runway airport is located just off Highway 2A about 80 kilometres north of Calgary.

The total airport area covers 99.78 acres, including the 1,100 metre paved runway, and a 550 metre grass cross-runway. The town; currently lease lots to hanger owners.

The towns are anxious to see the county's latest offer, said Didsbury Mayor Dorothy Moore, Friday.

"I'm always open to negotiation. I'll wait and see," said Moore.

Olds Mayor Norma Duncan was not immediately available for comment.

The county is constructing a new administration office on property adjacent to the airport, making the airport purchase a good fit, said Reeve Harvie.

"The county is in the infrastructure business of transportation and we believe that it (airport) does have role to play in this municipality," he said. "Discussions are still ongoing, no agreement has yet been made."

Harvie estimated an agreement could be made as soon as Thursday.



On July 19th Didsbury streets filled with water from a rain storm. 23rd St. was blocked off at 20th Ave, but that did not stop a dog from enjoying an evening swim.

Motorhome explosion sends man to hospital, injures four children in August

A weekend camping trip came to an early end in Didsbury when a motorhome exploded, leaving one man with first and second degree burns to almost 80 percent of his body, and four children with minor injuries.

The explosion happened around 9:20 a.m. Sunday morning, when 57-year-old Robert Potter, from Calgary, was cooking breakfast for his four young guests. The explosion is believed to have been caused by propane.

Potter was camping at Rosebud Valley Campground, just off highway 582, and had just arrived the previous night.

"I heard the boom, but no

one actually saw the explosion," said Flo Cunningham, Campground manager. "I looked and saw everyone running to help."

Potter was airlifted to the Foothills Hospital in Calgary, by STARS air ambulance.

"I stayed in the trailer and called 911," said Cunningham. "I was relaying what was going on."

None of the burns on the victims are believed to be life threatening.

Some of the children, ages 11, nine, eight and four, with Potter are believed to be related to him, and the others were friends.

Town operator fights to save baby duck

A baby duck was found by a Town crew on Thursday morning, covered in oil and fighting for its life.

Tyrone Patten, Town Utility operator, opened up an inspection chamber located at the lagoon just outside Didsbury, on 15th Ave, and discovered a baby duck struggling to survive in a pool of oil.

"The duck must have been sucked up through the pipe," said Patten.

Patten ran and got a fishing net to pull the duck out of the mysterious oil. The duck was then transported to the Town Shop, where it was cleaned off, and it awaited a ride to the Vet in Madden.



The Didsbury Ag Society put on its first fireworks show called "Thunder on the Prairies" this year at the Rodeo.

In September talks start about the Catholic school district expanding to Didsbury

Canvassers are presently going door to door in Didsbury, to get a clear picture of how many families would send their children to a Catholic school in Olds.

It was only a few months ago it was announced the Red Deer Separate School District (RDSSD) would expand to Olds. The first ever Olds Catholic school is expected to open up in Sept. 2005, and it is possible this school will include some Didsbury students.

As the RDSSD continues to spread into rural areas, Chinook's Edge School Division (CESD) is fearing the loss

of more students.

"My concern is not a religious thing," said CESD Board chair, Roy Brassard. "There are only a small number of students, and if students are bused to a Separate school in Olds, we are going to be even further restricted with offering programs than we already are."

Plane crash kills man

A plane crash took the life of a man from Three Hills, last Friday.

Grant Cunningham had booked the PA 235 FYRJ from the Olds/Didsbury Flying Asso-

ciation for the weekend.

He left the Olds/Didsbury airport, and while in route to his destination, Gimli, the plane crashed.

The crash occurred approximately two to three miles east of Lake Manitoba.

The aircraft was heading west and hit a bale of hay at a shallow angle at cruise speed. Cunningham, the sole occupant of the plane did not survive the crash.

According to the Accident investigation Board, the weather was likely a factor in the accident.

Centennial celebration almost underway

On Sept. 26th Didsburians will begin celebrations for the town's 100th birthday. These festivities start, after months of planning by the Didsbury Centennial Planning Committee.

The day begins at 12 pm, with a free lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, or chilli.

The Didsbury Elks have graciously donated the man power and equipment, to make this lunch a success, and also made the chilli, and provided tables and chairs.

Ag Foods donated some of

the food.

"We are hoping to see between 300 and 500 people that day," said Deb Whitmore, Committee chair.

Following lunch, there will be a proclamation of the Centennial year by the mayor and councillors.

Special guests will also include Richard Marz and Rita Thompson.

All day, games will be set up for children. These games included hockey shot, lazar ball throw, kids bouncing castle, a gold game, and other air type games.

2004 Year in Review

Moore wins another term as mayor in October

Didsburians were busy Monday voting for their choices for Town Council and mayor.

Results of this municipal election came after 11 pm Monday night, announcing Dorothy Moore, the incumbent candidate, as the winner.

"I am honored that the town of Didsbury has supported me this way, and I will do my outmost to forward the plan for the reconstruction and repair of our infrastructure," said Moore. "I pledge to continue opportunities for taxpayer input and involvement as we go forward."

Moore was running in

the election against previous mayor Ray Lea. Lea served the Town of Didsbury as mayor for nine years, then retired three years ago.

Didsbury's new Council will be Gayle Veno, Bob Davidson, Stephanie Dodyk, Stan Neufeld, Ernie Ryckman, and Brian Wittal.

Moore took 745 votes while Lea took 453 votes. Neufeld was the councillor that got the most votes with 628.

"I anticipate an exciting three years with this council and am confident that residents will see marked improvements as our plans unfold over the

next three years," said Moore. "My thanks to all the candidates on a job well done. The quality of candidates was remarkable and residents truly had to make difficult decisions."

Catholics called to vote

On Nov. 17th Catholic residents will be asked to vote whether they would like to see the Red Deer Catholic School system expand to Didsbury.

Last Tuesday an information meeting was held at the St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Didsbury. Approximately 17 Catholic residents and

two School Trustees went to the meeting. According to Vince Ackerman, Development Coordinator for the Red Deer Catholic School Board, the majority of the turnout was in favor of the expansion into Didsbury.

"Most people at the meeting were for the expansion," said Ackerman. "Also when we went door to door canvassing to find out how many Catholics were in Didsbury, and how many were in favor of the expansion, 88 percent were for it."

Two percent were undecided, and 10% were against it.



Lady Mary Soames, youngest daughter of former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill was in Didsbury in October. Soames enjoyed lunch with her friends at the Aspen Ridge Lodge before continuing onto the mountains.

In November AG Foods was announced Didsbury's Small Business of the Year

Small businesses were celebrated Friday night at the Didsbury Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Gala. The business that received the most recognition though was AG Foods.

AG Foods was announced Didsbury's Small Business of the Year.

"I am very honored and surprised," said Greg Poirier, manager. "I thought there were other businesses more eligible, like the two drug stores, but I am very honored we were picked."

The businesses that were nominated were,

CLT Contracting Ltd., Didsbury AG Foods, Didsbury ARP Drugs, Didsbury Liquor and Beer, Didsbury Motel and Country Nook Restaurant, House Goods Thrift Store, and Ward Value Drug Mart.

Didsbury Drugs received an Honorable Mention for their contributions in the community.

"I think we got this award because we do a lot of work in the community, our customer service is as good as possible, and we have friendly staff," said Poirier. "Without the staff we never would have this

award, it is a group effort."

Poirier said at the Gala when he received the award he was so surprised and touched, he was speechless.

"I have to apologize to the local businesses for not giving a speech," said Poirier.

"I was so surprised and choked up at that point in time, I did not know what to say. I would like to thank you all very much for this honor."

RCMP shocked at "shaken baby" case

The Didsbury RCMP

are still shocked after laying charges on 21 year old John Vachon, who allegedly assaulted a 17 month old girl, leaving her with severe and possibly permanent injuries.

Vachon, from Didsbury, was charged after the toddler was taken to the local hospital, the Olds hospital, then finally transferred to the Children's Hospital in Calgary where they realized something was wrong.

"They examined the baby and they felt the child had been assaulted," said Conal Archer. "They contacted us immediately."

Vachon was the caregiver of the child, and is being charged for allegedly shaking the toddler.

"The have an expertise at the Children's Hospital, they know what to look for in these situations," said Sgt. Tonn, Didsbury RCMP.

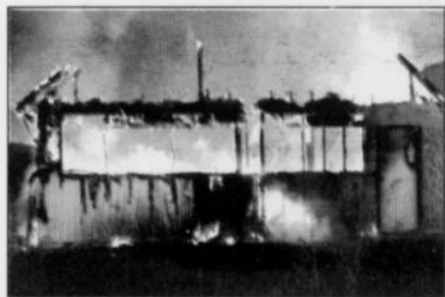
No vote for Didsbury regarding the Catholic School expansion

Wednesday night 98 Catholic residents were denied the right to vote on expanding into the Red Deer Catholic School District, because they were 6 Catholics short of a quorum.



In November Richard Marz of the PC Party was elected the Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA).

Fire investigation leads to pot bust in December



The Didsbury RCMP responded to a fire at a green house south of town last week.

The fire started in one green house and quickly expanded to three other greenhouses nearby.

During the investigation

of the cause of the fire it was discovered that one of the greenhouses had contained a marijuana grow operation.

"In the investigation of the fire, remnants of marijuana were discovered," said Didsbury RCMP Sgt. Tonn.

"A guy from Calgary has been charged."

Police estimate 1800 marijuana plants were in different stages of growth. 49 year old Germain Dignard of Calgary has been charged with Production of marijuana. Dignard is scheduled for his first appearance in Didsbury Provincial Court on Jan. 10th.

The cause of the fire was an electrical problem due to the grow operation.

AAA Cattle Company asked to reduce by 1,000 head per week

AAA Cattle Company, an intensive livestock operation just east of Didsbury, are asking the Natural Re-

source Conservation Board (NRCB) to put out a hold on an order which has asked them to reduce their cattle numbers by 1,000 head per week, starting December 6.

The NRCB has requested that AAA Cattle Company start reducing their herd of cattle by 1,000 head per week until they are back down to their original 2,500 which they were first approved for by Mountain View County back in 1998.

Between 1998 and 2002 the Alberta Government created legislation referred to as the Agricultural Operations Practising Act (AOPA), often referred to as, 'The Right to Farm Legislation.'

The Province used an existing Government body - the NRCB - to enforce the AOPA.

The AOPA now covers operations like feedlots, causing AAA Cattle Company, to become the responsibility of the Province and no longer that of the municipality.

Since the Province now looks after feedlots AAA Cattle Company applied to the NRCB on January 4, 2002 to have his feedlot expanded to a maximum of 18,200 head of cattle.

Didsbury man dies in accident

A Didsbury man was killed and four others injured after an early morning rollover on Saturday.

David Meston, age 47, of Didsbury, and four other passengers, also from Didsbury, were driving west bound on Hwy. 1A, when the vehicle approached the Morley Church.

Meston lost control of the vehicle, which then crossed the median, went up an embankment and rolled several times before finally stopping at the bottom of a gully.

According to Cst. Ray Lucko of the Cochrane RCMP Meston was ejected from the vehicle and killed on impact. Meston was not wearing his seatbelt, the other four passengers were and escaped with minor injuries.

Road conditions were a factor in the accident.

NEIGHBORHOOD

NOTES FROM NIGERIA

A new year...

Dear Family and Friends,

We trust that you and yours had a wonderful Christmas day. We enjoyed our time with about 25 of our Baptist missionary friends, starting about 1 p.m. with a fine potluck meal with ham, which is a bit difficult to get here.

We invited our Greek Cypriot friend, Thales, to come along with us for the afternoon. His wife is in Athens with her father, who had serious surgery last week. Thales and Niki have three grown children living in Athens so Niki was not alone.

After the meal we had a short program, presented by the MKs (missionaries' kids). Then we were divided into teams and instructed to match phrases from Christmas songs in one column with the song names in the other column on a sheet of paper. Uncle Jimmy's team won.

We then sang Christmas songs, ending with two songs revised by the former Hillcrest chaplain, Russel Atherton, to suit local conditions. They are very humorous.

We didn't sing the one about the reindeer becoming sick and ending up as suya (a local snack meat on a stick, cooked over an open fire); at least one person didn't want the MKs to get the wrong idea!

Then it was time to open presents. It's always fun to watch the kids tear open the presents. I appreciate their excitement and joy. We adults got presents as well, and we enjoyed them.

Then it was back down to the dining room for snacks or just visiting, while the kids went out on the patio and played a new game that one of them received for a present. We had beautiful clear skies and the temperature was in the 80s Fahrenheit.

About five p.m. we collected our various dishes and some food for supper. All in

all, we had a great time.

Christmas Eve we had a service at the Hillcrest Chapel. For most of the day, a Nigerian lady and her two children (who attend Hillcrest) decorated the Chapel and did a fantastic job. There were banners and cloth draped.

There were many roses, candles by the dozen, and a four-foot Christmas tree with flashing lights. It was beautiful and added to the atmosphere of the service. The message helped us focus on

the reason for the celebration, and we ended by lighting candles and singing "Silent Night". It was a very festive time.

After the service, we went to a local restaurant for a buffet meal with Thales. He admitted that he had gone to the hotel early because the local electricity hasn't been working much lately, and his generator broke just that afternoon.

He was not impressed that he was going to spend his Christmas Eve in the

dark, so he went where there was light and friends.

Thursday afternoon one of the Baptist missionaries was playing with his children. He ran into the clothesline and it flipped him back onto his head and shoulder. He has a concussion and the ligaments in the shoulder seem to be damaged.

Thank you so much for your continued support and prayers. We are indeed very grateful. May God

richly bless you, especially during the holiday season.

Sincerely,
Dan for the Snyders

Do you have concerns about problems with alcohol, other drugs or gambling?



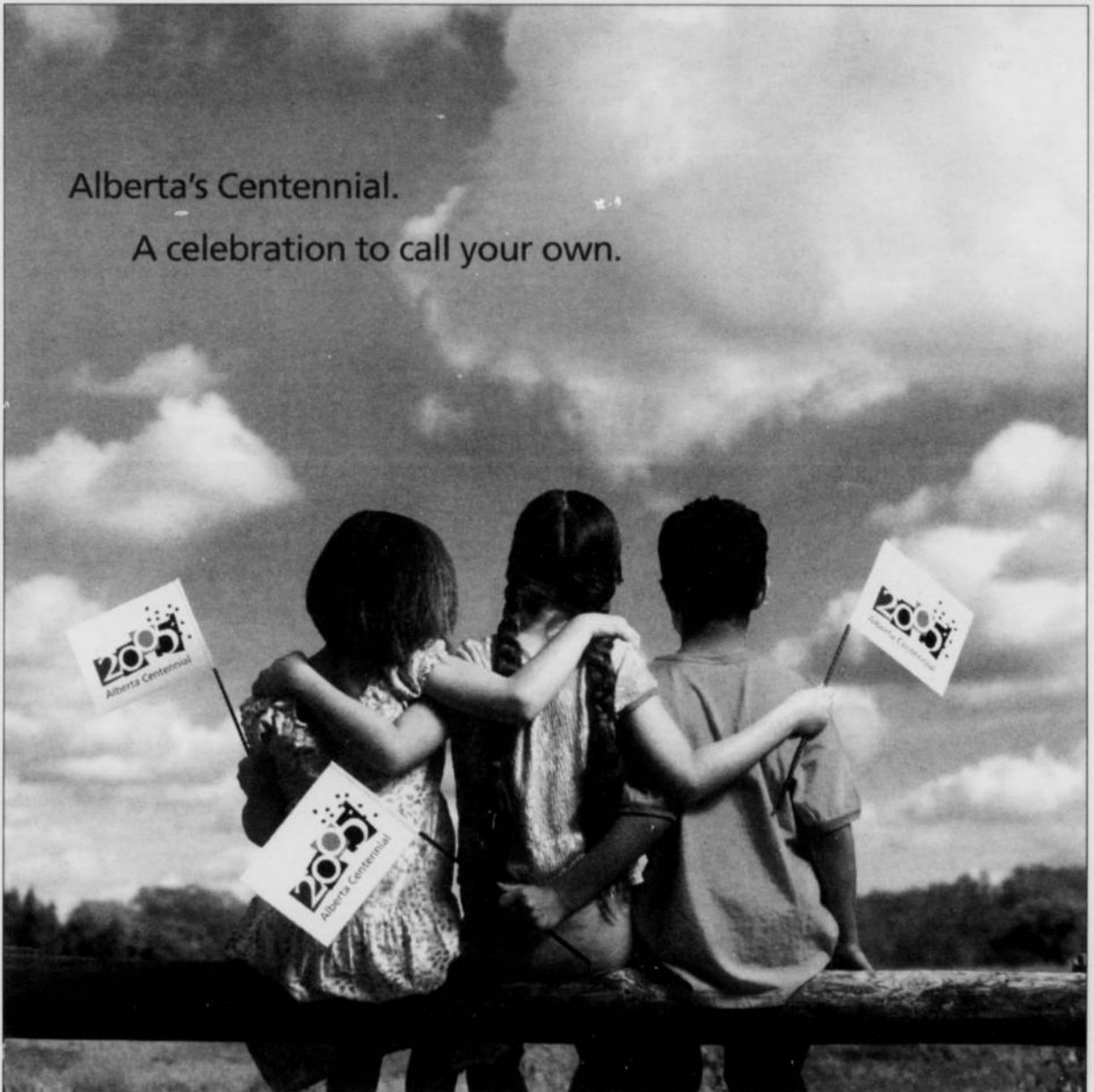
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NEIGHBORHOOD

Focus on the Family



QUESTION: Everyone knows that divorce is tough on children. What about parent-child separation that occurs for reasons other than divorce? Is the pain any less intense for kids when a parent has a good reason to be away?

DR. DOBSON: Research confirms that the consequences of any parent-child separation can be severe. In one study of fathers whose jobs required them to be away from their families for long periods of time, the children tended to experience numerous negative reactions, including anger, rejection, depression, low self-esteem and, commonly, a decline in school performance. Those findings have been confirmed in other contexts as well.

Some of those conclusions were presented at a White House conference at which I spoke a few years ago. The other speaker was Dr. Armand Nicholi, professor of psychiatry at Harvard University. That day, Dr. Nicholi explained how family circumstances that make parents inaccessible to their children produce some of the same effects as divorce itself.

Cross-cultural studies make it clear that parents in the United States spend less time with their children than almost any other nation in the world. For decades, millions of fathers have devoted themselves exclusively to their occupations and activities away from home. More recently, mothers have joined the work force in huge numbers, rendering themselves exhausted at night and burdened with domestic duties on weekends. The result: No one is at home to meet the needs of millions of lonely preschoolers and latchkey children.

Dr. Nicholi expressed regret that his comments would make many parents feel uncomfortable and guilty. However, he felt obligated to report the facts as he saw them. Most important (and the point of his address), Dr. Nicholi stressed the undeniable link between the interruption of parent-child relationships and the escalation of psychiatric problems that we were then seeing, and that are even more pronounced today. If the numbers of dysfunctional families and absentee parents continued to escalate, he said, serious national health problems were inevitable.

One-half of all hospital beds in the United States at that time were taken up by psychiatric patients. That figure could hit 95 percent if the incidence of divorce, child abuse, child molestation and child neglect continued to soar. In that event, Dr. Nicholi said, we would also see vast increases in teen suicide, already up more than 300 percent in 25 years, and drug abuse, crimes of violence and problems related to sexual disorientation.

I have reason to understand a measure of the pain spoken of by Dr. Nicholi. I experienced it when I was 6 years old. My mother and father left me with my aunt for six months while they traveled. That last night together, I sat on my mother's lap while she told me how much she loved me and that she and my father would come back for me as soon as they could. Then they drove away as the sun dropped below the horizon. I sat on the floor in the dark for an unknown period of time, fighting back the tears as depression engulfed me. That sorrowful evening was so intense that its pain can be recalled instantly today, more than five decades later.

In short, even when parent-child separation occurs for valid reasons in a loving home, a boy or girl frequently interprets parental departure as evidence of rejection. If we have any choice in the matter, we should not put them through that painful experience.

QUESTION: How should a person respond to someone who is in denial? I have a very good friend whose wife is cheating on him, but he chooses not to see it. Should I make him face reality?

DR. DOBSON: There is no blanket answer to that question, in view of all the thousands of specific situations to which it could be applied. There are times when denial is the only link to sanity or stability, and it must be preserved. On other occasions, to break the bubble of illusion can be a loving thing. Either way, it is risky to awaken a dreamer. If the need for denial is intense, the individual will often lash out at the one who threatens its validity.

by Lita Reid

President Noreen Olson opened the last meeting of the Jackson WI in 2004 at the home of Dorit Bird, by welcoming guests Sharon and Jenavieve Bird, and Jacquie Snyder. We sang "Joy to the World" after which she gave us a few statistics on "Santa" who originated in Italy. There was a feast day around 280 AD at which St. Nicholas gave children gifts. Dutch explorers later brought the custom to the New World in 1642.

Our Roll Call was to bring a product made in Canada, for the Food Bank, and tell something about it, proved most interesting, and was answered by 11 members. Pea Butter is made in Legal, Alberta; cranberries are grown and processed in Vancouver B.C.; corn and plum tomatoes are tinned in Ontario; lovely bronze honey is processed locally and at Spruce Grove; two bags of Sunny Boy Cereal manufactured for years (since 1926), by the Byers Flour Mills at Camrose; Maple Leaf tinned ham was found to be processed in Burlington Ontario, and has a shelf life of two years; a jar of maple syrup from Quebec; and a fruit and nut mix from Burnaby B.C. completed a variety of foods donated. There was also a great variety of toys donated to add to hampers being

made up for Cremona.

Dorit Bird reported on how successful our baking and handicraft table had been at Winterfest. She has written up an outline for future reference for baking and sales items. The Safety Kits were all sold as a public service venture.

Two Resolutions have been submitted to Marcella Basco concerning "Wetland" and "Nurse Practitioners" with Bancroft co-signing them. At the planning meeting held Nov. 29th a schedule for 2005 was drawn up. Dorit has made an excellent job of typing up this program schedule. Thank you Dorit! A motion to donate the food, money and gifts to Cremona was passed, and Lita Reid will deliver them.

Darlene Hallett and Kathie Reid agreed to audit the treasurer's books. We moved to hold a Valentine's Tea at Chinook Winds Lodge in the New Year.

Constituency Convener Joan

Foot sadly informed us that Westcott W.I. held their last meeting Dec. 14th, and Lone Pine has already disbanded.

The search for a suitable candidate for the Erland Lee Award continues. We rose and lustily sang "Hark the Herald Angels Sing", followed by Noreen reading "My True Love - After Christmas!" a humorous saga, sent by Marguerite Krebs, taking its theme from the Twelve Days of Christmas. Lita then read "The True Meaning of Christmas" followed by us singing "Away in a Manger".

Ev. Robertson presented retiring president Noreen Olson with a lovely quilted Christmas Centrepiece by Darlene Hallett - followed by hearty applause for a job well done.

A Christmas lunch served by ladies whose surnames begin from M to Z was enjoyed by all.

We will welcome any ladies to our Jan. 26th meeting at 1:30 PM at the home of Kathie Reid.

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Anglican Church of Canada St. Cyprian's
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Mid-week service every third Wednesday at 9:30 am.
St. Cyprian's is a small, friendly Christian community which welcomes newcomers.

Berthel Mennonite Church
Didsbury, Alberta
8km South of the Didsbury overpass
8km East on Berthel Rd.
Sunday School - 9:45 am
Sunday Worship Service - 10:55 am
Pastor: Edwin Garland
For more information ph. 335-4451

Mountain View Evangelical Missionary Church
(14km East of Didsbury)
Pastor John Lucas
Office: 335-4422
Home: 335-8923
Morning Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
For info. concerning weekly activities please call the Church office.

Knox United Didsbury
1406 19th Avenue
Minister: Rev. Nancy Nourse
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Redeemer Lutheran LUTHERAN CHURCH CANADA
1500-23rd
Rev. Robert Mahns
Church: 335-3161 / Res: 335-3656
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Adult Bible Study Sunday: 9:30 a.m.
Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Sun. 10:30 a.m.
Jr. & Senior Youth, Women's & Seniors Ministry Group, Small Group Bible Study meetings throughout the week.

Chinook Winds Christian Centre
1710 - 145th Didsbury
SUNDAY CELEBRATION: 10 a.m.
Prophetic Worship and Bible Teaching for all ages - Nursery Service
ph/fx: 335-3551 email: cwcc@airnet.com
Healing Rooms Ministry: Wed. 7pm-9pm
Pastoral Team: Richard & Beth Kope
See you at the centre!

West Zion Mennonite Church
South of Didsbury to sign - West 1 1/2 miles
Pastor Trevor Kirieka, Info: 337-2020
Sept. 1st - June 20th
Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:55 a.m.
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Zion Evangelical Missionary Church
1/4 mile East of Didsbury
Phone: 335-3629
Grant Sikstrom, Senior Pastor
Youth Pastor Colin Creighton
Sunday School: 9:30 am
Worship Celebration: 10:45 am
Life groups, Teen Activities & Children's programs.

St. Anthony's Catholic
2030 - 24th Ave. Didsbury
For more information, please contact
Claude Baril @ 335-3842
Catholic Women's League: Wendy MacKenzie 335-8507
Knights of Columbus: Jim Myhre 335-3633

If you would like to attend Mass in Olds, but require a ride, we have parishioners willing to provide transportation. Please call Wynne Wollen at 335-8891

See You in Church
This Sunday

St. Clement Anglican Church, Balzac
7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday
Institution of the Lord's Supper
10:00 am Good Friday Service

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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December 24, 2004



From the Family

MEMORIALS

EBY - WARD

who passed away Jan. 04/04
No one knows the heartache
Only those who have lost can tell
of the grief
that we bear in silence
For the one we loved so well
Some day we hope to meet him
Some day we know not when
To clasp his hand
in the better land
Never to part again.
Ever remembered,
ever loved by his wife Luella Eby
and daughters -
Gayle (Colin) McEwing,
Gwen (Jim) Chopko,
Mary Lou (Paul) Evans and
Norma- Jean (Victor) Howard

In loving memory of
Gertrude Pratt
who passed away Jan. 4, 2004
Though her smile
is gone forever,
And her hands we cannot touch,
Still we have so many memories,
Of the one we loved so much.
Her memory is our keepsake,
With which we'll never part,
God has her in His keeping.
We have her in our hearts.
Lovingly remembered
and sadly missed by
All her children & grandchildren



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DOWELL - Gladys Lola Dowell passed away peacefully in the Didsbury & District Health Centre on Monday, December 20, 2004 at the age of 71 years. Gladys was born on November 7, 1933 the eldest daughter of Wellington Bruce and Dorothy Irene Sheils. She resided with her parents and 3 sisters on the family farm east of Didsbury. She attended the Jutland and Didsbury schools and as a young girl she was a member of the East Didsbury 4-H Club and the Lone Pine Orioles Girls Club. In the early 50's, Gladys worked in the kitchen of the Olds Agricultural and Vocational College until she married Roy Dowell on July 16, 1952. The couple resided with Roy's father Foster on the farm east of Carstairs. Gladys joined the Lone Pine Women's Institute and through the years held every office available in the club as well as serving as the Constituency Convener for District 5 Alberta. Gladys was also instrumental in starting the first memorial book for the district. As well as W.L. Gladys divided her time between many other organizations through the years. She served as leader for the Lone Pine Orioles Girls Club. She was a member of the Lone Pine Old Timers Association and served on the Lone Pine Hall board. Gladys was a member of the Carstairs and District Museum and was a member of the Didsbury Hospital Volunteers. As well each year would find Gladys canvassing for the Carstairs Com-

GLADUE - Fern Louise 1930-2004 - Fern Louise Gladue was born July 2, 1930 in Didsbury, Alberta and passed away December 28, 2004 in Didsbury, Alberta. She will be dearly missed by her children Edward Oliver (Donna), Patricia Elliot (Arnold), and Sam Goulet all of Calgary, Shane Crow, Kathleen Bekropolos of Calgary, Claudia Whitebear (Bazil) of Vancouver, and Darcy Beaver; her 37 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren. Louise will also be remembered by her brothers Ernest Oliver of Didsbury, Raymond Oliver of Edmonton and many nieces and nephews. Louise was predeceased by her daughter Karen Sieben (Henry), son David Koester (Bonnie), great granddaughter Lorna, brother William Oliver, sister Jesse Newman and sister-in-law Martha Oliver. Louise lived on

the Didsbury area family farm as a child. She was the second youngest of Ed and Beatrice Oliver's five children. Her employment took her to various locations including Water Valley, Rocky Mountain House and other back woods places. She moved to Calgary in March of 1963, where she raised her children. In July of 1976 she married Bart Gladue and moved to Slave Lake. She returned to Calgary in January of 1980. In March of 1997, she returned to Didsbury and purchased her first home in the Didsbury Trailer Court, where she resided until her passing. Louise was a very private person and one with few friends. But the friends she did cherish were dear to her heart and kept her going in her later years. Accumulating health problems left her with limited mobility but she still had her wits and good

humor about her. To pass time Louise enjoyed knitting and crocheting gifts. She had a thrifty side, always finding a bargain here and there. Indian Heritage pictures and stories were of particular interest to Louise. When living in Slave Lake she took language courses in Cree writing and speaking. She was fond of some phrases that no one knew the meaning of except her, so we had to ask. Sometimes she would translate and sometimes not. She like family gatherings especially when the great grandchildren were present. Receiving hugs and kisses were Louise's greatest joy, her reasoning being "they don't cost anything and you can't lose them by putting them down." Embraces and memories can not be misplaced. Funeral Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 6, 2004 at PIERSON'S Forest Lawn Chapel,

Jonathan, Bradley and David; Allan (Agnes) Dowell of Carstairs and their children Jocelyn, Nicole and James; Dwayne (Lillian) Dowell of Carstairs and their children Cody, Megan and Albert, Daniel and Shane; Bonnie-Jean (Mike) Phillips of Didsbury and their children Tanya, Kurtis and Timothy, 3 sisters Lois (Mernus) Casebeer of Carstairs, Ann (Jim) Bain of Calgary and Linda Neergaard of Didsbury; sister-in-law Evelyn Milne of Didsbury as well as numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, cousins and a multitude of friends that she has made through the years. Funeral services were held on Tuesday, December 28, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. in the Carstairs Community Hall. Interment followed in the Carstairs Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made directly to the Oddfellow & Rebekah Visual Research Fund or the Oddfellows Bursary Fund at the Grand Lodge Office, #24 Northmount Dr. NE, Calgary, AB T2K 3E8 or the charity of choice. As a tribute to Gladys Dowell, a tree will be planted in the Heartland Tree Memorial Park, Olds. Heartland Funeral Services, Olds entrusted with arrangements.



HAAGENSEN, Hazel May - 34 years a resident of Carstairs and most recently a resident of the Aspen Ridge Lodge in Didsbury, suddenly passed away, on December 28, 2004. Hazel left us to be with her soulmate in life, her beloved husband Phil. She will be sorely missed by her daughter Carol (Barry) Valleau, her son Doug (Barb) Haagenson, her grandsons Jason and Sheldon Valleau and Paul (Alyson) Haagenson and her great grandchildren Ivan and Blythe. Hazel was predeceased by her son Murray. A celebration of Hazel's life with us will be held at the Carstairs Legion #53 on January 22, 2005 at 2 p.m.

MEMORIALS

Louis Casebeer

In loving memory of
a dear husband
who passed away Jan. 5/2003
My heart still aches with sadness
and secret tears still flow.
What it meant to lose you
No one will ever know.
My life goes on without you
but nothing is the same.
I will never lose the memory
of the one I loved so much.
Always remembered
and sadly missed by Erika

Louis Casebeer

In loving memory of
a dear Dad and Grandpa
who passed away Jan. 5/03
As time unfolds another year
Loving memories keep you near
No longer in our lives to share
But in our hearts
you are always there.
Judy and family

4121-17 Avenue S.E. Friends and relatives are invited to a viewing with the family prior to the service from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Interment will follow the service at the Rocky View Garden of Peace Cemetery. Arrangements are in care of PIERSON'S FUNERAL SERVICE.

CARDS OF THANKS

A BIG Thank you to Parkland Agri-Services for sponsoring us in the Ray Kingsmith Memorial Curling Bonspiel at the Calgary Winter Club on Dec. 27, 28, 29 2004. We really appreciate your support of junior curling. Sincerely,

Cody Atkinson, Nick Pochapsky, Rob Venneman, Justin Patten

I want to thank my family and friends for all the flowers, cards, visits and food brought to the house while I was in the hospital. Special thanks to Dr. Puts and staff at the Didsbury Hospital as well as staff at the Rockyview for the wonderful care.

God Bless you all.
Hilda Regner





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AUTO PARTS

GET IN. GO FAR! Pre-employment General Mechanic training at NAIT's Fairview Campus starts September '05; www.nait.ca. 1-800-661-4077. Apply now! NAIT. Bring on the future. awna

AUTOS

1992 PONTIAC Grand Prix. \$1,500 OBO. Good condition. Call Lory 335-8458. 40-2t
1992 GMC extended cab, 4x4, Trailer package. \$3,500. Call 335-3078. tfn
1988 TEMPO, 4 dr., 1978 Dodge van, camperized. Both run good. 403-556-2176. 39-2t
86 CHEVY 1/2 ton, tilt, cruise control, with topper. Safety inspected. New windshield, front brakes, battery, exhaust. \$1,450.00 OBO. 403-730-1936. tfn

CREDIT RANCH. Bank refused? Poor credit? No credit? Bankruptcy? Divorced? Are you presently employed? Apply today for a chance to drive away in the car of your dreams. Apply online: www.creditranch.ca. 1-877-687-7255. awna

NEED A VEHICLE? We have over 100 in-stock and we have car loan money to lend! Call Marcel Denis, Supreme Motors, Wetaskiwin, Alberta. 780-352-4601. awna

BUILDING SUPPLIES

METAL SIDING/ROOFING: Best prices in Alberta! 32" V-Rib/36" Tough-Rib \$.65 sq. ft. Galvalume stone, coffee brown, tan, charcoal, white grey, red, taupe, dark green \$.85 sq. ft. Other colours available. Alta-Wide/B.H.L. Builders Supplies 780-887-0355. awna
FLOORING WHOLESALE! desperately needs cash flow. Laminate \$.49/sq. ft.; 12ml laminate \$1.99/sq. ft.; laminate tile from \$.99/sq. ft.; 3 1/4" oak, maple or birch pre-fin \$3.99/sq. ft.; 3 1/4" Japanese cherry pre-fin \$4.75/sq. ft. Tons more! 1-800-631-3342. awna

BUSINESS

OPPORTUNITIES

GREAT CANADIAN DOLLAR STORE franchise opportunities. More than 130 stores across Canada; one of the most thrilling and affordable franchises to own. 1-877-388-0123; www.dollarstores.com. awna
COMPLETE LINE of cheesemaking equipment for sale. Everything included. Capable of processing 8000 litres per shift. \$130,000. plus inventory. 403-843-3606 or 403-843-4217. awna
PAPERCHASE OFFICE PRODUCTS for sale, and or building for lease in Drayton Valley. Owner retiring. Excellent opportunity. Serious buyer's only. For appointment phone 780-621-6390. awna

CAREER TRAINING

BE A SUCCESSFUL WRITER with our great home-study course. For the Free Book that explains it all. 1-800-267-1829; www.qualityofcourse.com. Quality of Course, Ottawa, Ontario. awna

OLDS COLLEGE 16 week pre-employment welding program at Hanna, Alberta, April 4, 2005 to July 22, 2005. Earn 1st year apprenticeship technical accreditation! 1-800-661-6537 ext. 7956; www.oldscollege.ca. awna

CAREER TRAINING

WATER CAREER! Marine Service Technician training at NAIT's Patricia Campus starts September '05 in Edmonton; www.nait.ca. 1-800-661-4077. Phone. Apply now! NAIT. Bring on the future. awna

COMING EVENTS

HORSE BREEDERS and Owners Conference, Capri Centre, Red Deer, Jan. 7 - 9. North America's Premiere Horse Conference. Fifteen internationally recognized speakers. Topics: nutrition, healthcare, reproduction, equipment. Cost \$85. for the weekend. For more information 403-948-8521 or horseind@spots.ca. awna

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

IF YOU would like to make each day fun and exciting at the Didsbury Children's Home, we would like to talk to you! Accredited Supports to the Community is recruiting for part-time and relief Support Workers in our Children's Home. The position will require a minimum of 4 awake night shifts per month. We offer competitive wages, benefits, flexible schedule and on the job training. Please submit resumes to: Joanne Schneider; Accredited Supports to the Community; Box 3940, 4322 - 50th Ave; Olds, AB, T4H 1P6; PH: (403) 556-4110; FAX: (403) 556-6480; Email: main@asc-mva.ab.ca. State Competition #CS010. Deadline: Friday, January 14, 2005. Although only those selected for an interview will be contacted, we thank all applicants. 40-2t

ARE YOU a night owl? Are you looking for a fulfilling career working with children? If so, this job's for you! Accredited Supports to the Community has a Full Time Awake Night Support worker position available in our Didsbury Children's Home. The successful applicant must have a valid driver's license and consent to have an RCMP/Child Welfare Information screening completed. First Aid/CPR level C required within 3 months of commencement. Aboriginal Awareness and Suicide Intervention training required within 6 months of commencement. Submit resumes to: Joanne Schneider; Accredited Supports to the Community; Box 3940, 4322 - 50th Avenue; Olds, AB T4H 1P6; PH: (403) 556-4110; FAX: (403) 556-6480; Email: main@asc-mva.ab.ca. State Competition #CS009. Deadline: Friday, Jan. 7, 2005 by 4:30 p.m. 39-2t

CLASS 1 drivers & lease operators required for local company running AB & SK hauls with 3 years experience. Super B grain hauling an asset. Must have clean drivers abstract. Fax resumes to Dick's Trucking 337-3758. tfn
PROVINCE-WIDE CLASSIFIEDS. Reach over 1 million readers weekly. Only \$229. + GST (based on 25 words or less). Call this newspaper NOW for details. awna
MECHANICALLY INCLINED PERSONNEL with tractor/trailer experience. Journeyman not necessarily required. Wages dependent on experience. Temporary accommodation. Benefits package available. Fax resume with references: 780-523-5833. awna

CLASS #1 tank truck drivers with off road experience. Catered camp job. Two weeks on and one week off. Full-time. Fax resume with references: 780-523-5833. awna

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



We are accepting applications for a full-time or part-time 'Weight Management Coach'. The successful candidate will provide Weight Loss services and sell herbal products in a clinic setting. Must be enthusiastic, energetic, and goal-oriented. Sales experience and nutritional knowledge would be an asset but full training is provided.

Drop Resumes at:
5303 - 50th Ave., Olds, AB
Phone: (403) 507-0060
Email: Herbal_Magic-Olds@telus.net

GOLDSTAR TRANSPORTATION currently recruiting drivers and lease operators. Offer steady, year-round employment. Competitive wages. "Super B" training program available. Fax current drivers abstract and resume to 250-374-0250 or apply online: www.arrowtransportation.com. awna
PROGRESSIVE EQUIPMENT RENTALS, sales and service company seeking counter sales person. Experience in all aspects of rental industry and/or power product sales. Join our positive team in our new facility. Excellent compensation package with bonus plan. Fax resume to 403-652-1011 or email: dave@highriverrentals.com. awna

PROGRESSIVE EQUIPMENT RENTALS, sales and service company seeking a small engine service manager to manage all aspects of our service division. Join our positive team in our new facility. Excellent compensation package with bonus plan. Fax resume 403-652-1011 or email: dave@highriverrentals.com. awna

PRAIRIE BOYS Oilfield Services Inc. requires qualified picker, bed truck and winch tractor operators and experienced swamper. Fax resume and drivers abstract to 780-524-2993. Email: safety@prairieboysoilfield.ca. awna
CHEAP TELEPHONE RECONNECT - Ring in the New Year! Only \$49.95/month! FREE long distance calling card with hookup. Call Phone Factory toll free 1-877-336-2274; www.phonefactory.ca. awna

HEALTHY COFFEE. \$1,000. - \$10,000./month. Be your own boss. Work from home. 6 key business builders wanted. Simple system. Full training. Call now 1-866-458-9696. awna
FULL-TIME BAKER. Eastalta Co-op Ltd. is looking for a responsible individual with good interpersonal skills. Experience needed. Must have good references! Apply to Peter or Alain at 780-853-5335. awna
LUBE SHOP MANAGER. Rocky Mountain House, Alberta. Need strong mechanical background management experience. Fax resume to 403-845-4394 (or for info phone 403-845-5110, ask for manager). awna

REPORTER REQUIRED. Reporting, sales support (ad features), photography, pagination, Adobe Photoshop InDesign. Experience an asset. Week-end/evening work. Resume: Fax 780-632-3235. Mail: Box 489, Vegreville, AB, T9C 1R6. awna

PTI PREMIUM CAMP SERVICES, subsidiary of PTI Group Inc., who provides remote site camp and catering services currently seeking: Cook's, Baker's, Cook's Helpers, Housekeeping. Resume: 3050 Parsons Road, Edmonton, AB, T6N 1B1. Fax 780-461-3114; recruiting@ptigroup.com by January 17, 2005. Refer to website: www.ptigroup.com/careers. awna
ENCORE CORING and Drilling, a division of Ensign Resource Service Group, is currently seeking experienced Class 1 drivers. Applicants should have at least 3 years driving experience, valid H2S Alive and First Aid Certification. Preference will be given to applicants with winching, and rig moving familiarity and a clean abstract. We offer competitive wages, an excellent benefits package and a safety incentive program. Resume: Ensign Recruitment Center, 2001 - 4 St., Nisku, AB, T9E 7W6. Phone 1-866-889-3774. Fax 780-955-6160; hr@ensigngroup.com. awna

PARTS PERSON REQUIRED for large Central Alberta Ford dealership. Must have a minimum of two years Ford experience and have a good working knowledge of computers and Ford Microcat System. Fax to Parts Manager at 403-347-3540. awna
EXPERIENCED CATTLE PERSON for Westlock area mixed farm and feedlot. Must have animal health training and/or pen-checking experience. Farm equipment, horse knowledge is an asset. Fax resume to Jubilee Farms 780-349-5414 or email: jubfeed@telusplanet.net. awna

ELECTRICIANS REQUIRED. Journey-men and 4th year apprentices required for full-time work in Vegreville, Alberta. Benefit package. Please fax resume to 1-780-632-7423. awna
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ROUND HAY BALES for sale. Cheap. Free delivery, self-unloading. No Sunday calls please. 403-843-6380. Also wanted Dodge diesel. awna
OATS, BARLEY, WHEAT. Buying feeds grains of all types. Wheat, oats, barley, peas, rye...heated or green canola. On farm pick-up. Westcan Feed and Grain. 1-877-250-5252. awna

FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR rent in Didsbury - has 4 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath - lg fenced yard. Single car garage. \$775/mth + utilities. \$775 SD. Call 335-8855 or 861-2917 (cell). 42-5t

DIDSBURY, NEARLY new 3 bedroom, 2 full bathroom, full basement, large fenced yard, front drive attached garage, no smoking, no pets. \$900 per month plus utilities and \$900 Security deposit. Available immediately. Call 337-3428 or 948-5773. tfn

COZY 2 bedroom house, 1 bedroom down. 3 appliances, wood burning stove, 1 1/2 baths, off street parking. Close to Hospital 1401 - 18 Ave. No dogs or cats. \$740/month. 335-4981. 39-2t

FURNISHED BASEMENT suite. Private entrance, separate heat control, living room, full bath (shower in tub), bedroom, kitchen/dining room, washer/dryer. Please, NO SMOKERS. Phone David or Margaret 335-3012. 40-2t

THREE BEDROOM, 1.5 bath fourplex unit with newer paint, \$525 per month plus utilities. Call Ed at RE/MAX Mountain Aire Realty. 507-3520. tfn

SMALL TWO bedroom home located near high school & downtown area. No dogs. Available Mar. 1 \$700/mo. + D.D. 335-3557. 39-3t

MAIN FLOOR of 2 bedroom bungalow in Didsbury. Private entrance, covered deck, ample parking, close to schools & grocery store. \$675/mo. inc. utilities. Available immediately. 335-6242 after 4 p.m. 40-2t

3 BEDROOMS, 1 1/2 bath, 4plex, \$525/mo. Water & sewer included. Available Jan. 1/05. Ph: 335-8634. 39-4t

DIDSBURY 3 + 1 bedroom large older home with upgrades, large kitchen, skylight, hardwood, fenced yard, 2.5 baths, new fully developed basement with rec room, office area, great for a growing family. \$895 per month plus utilities, S.D. Call Ed at RE/MAX Mountain Aire Realty 507-3520. tfn

ROOM FOR rent & available \$350/mo., \$300 D.D. utilities incl. 335-3505. tfn

SPACIOUS 3 bedroom apartment, approx. 1,100 sq. ft., 1 1/2 bathrooms, balcony, \$530/mo. Available immediately. Please call Brian at 403-348-6594. tfn

BRAND NEW 1 level 2 bdrm duplex, 40+, garage, fireplace, oak cabinets, hardwood floor, vaulted ceiling. Fenced backyard with no maintenance, no children, no pets, \$900/mo. D.D. \$900. Call Joe 994-0279. tfn

DIDSBURY, 3 bedroom, 2 bathroom home, large fenced yard, includes fridge, stove, dishwasher, \$750 per month plus utilities and security deposit of \$750. No smoking. Call 337-3428 or 948-5773. tfn

TWO BEDROOM suite for rent, fridge, stove, \$450/month plus SD. Phone 335-2094. tfn

DIDSBURY MANOR

1706-22 Ave.
3 Bdr. Townhouses
Private Yard,
W/D Hookups, \$600/mth.
Call 335-4762 or 507-1153

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 1997 Wells Cargo SW8 (5x8-foot) covered utility trailer; rear and side doors; tinted locking window; front gravel guard; Radial tires; excellent condition, \$2200. Call 556-3567. 40-2t

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Vintage 3/4-size stand-up string bass; excellent condition; includes stand, soft case and Piezo bridge pick-up. \$1200. Call 556-3567. 40-2t
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awna

LANDSCAPING & GARDENING

HORTICULTURE AND sportsfield/parks training at NAIT's Fairview Campus starts September '05. For more info visit www.nait.ca. 1-800-661-4077. Apply now! NAIT. Bring on the future.

awna

LIVESTOCK

GET IN. GO FAR! Equine horsemanship. Horse training. At NAIT's Fairview, Alberta Campus starting September '05; www.nait.ca. Call 1-800-661-4077. Apply now! NAIT. Bring on the future.

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HOMES

SAVE BIG BUCKS or Cash Back! Prices slashed on all 2004 stock models. Call Ridgewood Homes today. Edmonton 780-960-2112. Calgary 1-800-797-5717. Red Deer 1-800-797-5714. awna

MOTORCYCLES

HARLEY DAVIDSON TECHNICIAN training starts March 7 at NAIT's Fairview Campus. Call 1-800-661-4077 or check out www.nait.ca for more details and start living your dream.

awna

PETS

ANIMAL LOVERS - take Animal Health Technology training at NAIT's Fairview, Alberta campus, the original home of AHT training in Canada. Call 1-800-661-4077 or visit www.nait.ca. awna

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RENTALS AVAILABLE

RUGBY HALL for rent by the day or weekend. Ball diamond. Horseshoe pit. Trailer parking. Contact Susan at 335-3131. 39-1t

SERVICES

DEBT STRESS? We can help you avoid bankruptcy through debt consolidation. Achieve peace of mind. Visit us online at mydebtsolution.com or call toll free 1-877-556-3500. awna

CRIMINAL RECORD? Canadian pardon seals record. U.S. waiver permits legal American entry. Why risk employment, licensing, travel, arrest, deportation, property confiscation? Canadian - U.S. Immigration specialists. 1-800-347-2540. awna

TRAVEL

LAST MINUTE FLIGHTS - Orlando from \$407. Book your next vacation package, air only, hotel, car rentals, cruises and travel insurance with itravel2000.com or call 1-866-317-2184 and get away for less guaranteed! awna

WANTED

LOOKING TO buy a used electric treadmill. Must be in excellent condition. Call Tamara at 335-3374. tfn
COLLECTOR PAYING top prices for 2 cylinder JD's preferably 820, 830 series. Also Internationals, 1456, 1026 series, Cockshuts, Olivers, Minneapolis, Allis, etc. Running or not. 306-369-2210; 306-221-5908. awna



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Fax - (403)335-8143

The Program

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND EVENTS



DIDSBURY

Mountainview Women's Breakfast

Tuesday, Jan. 11 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in Didsbury's Redeemer Lutheran Church Gym. \$5 per person. Topic - New Year - New Hope. For reservations call Deb 337-2487 or Margie 335-3765

Meeting

Didsbury Ag Society Annual General meeting January 10, 2005 at 7:30 p.m., Didsbury Curling Club. Everyone welcome. Snacks provided.

DIDSBURY

Didsbury & District Community Bus Trip

Bus trip to Stage West March 2nd. Cost is \$45. Money must be in by February 4th. Bus leaves complex at 10 a.m. Call Bea 335-3058 or Gen 335-3449.

Didsbury & District Community Bus Trip

Didsbury & District Bus trip Wednesday, January 19 going to Cash Casino Calgary. Bus leaves complex at 10 a.m. Cost is \$10. Call Bea 335-3058 or Gen 335-3449.

DIDSBURY

5-0 Club Hall Rentals

For hall rentals &/or info regarding the hall please call Bea Niedersteiner 335-3058.

OLDS

W.H.O.A.S

Wild Horses of Alberta Society. Help preserve these magnificent animals in their natural environment. Meetings are the first Tues. of every month at Olds Cow Palace, 8 p.m. Call Doreen at 556-6167 for more information.

ONGOING EVENTS

DIDSBURY

AA

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings. Fridays 8:30 p.m. at the Masonic Hall, Didsbury, 21 Ave. and 21 St. For information call Colleen at 335-8484 or Rick at 335-9525.

TIME OUT

Child & Youth Clubs of Didsbury's Mom's Time Out and Dads Too program. At Train Station, Mondays 10-11:30 a.m. Nominal babysitting fee. Call 335-9107 or 335-9372 for more information.

KING HIRAM LODGE

King Hiram Lodge #21 has its regular meetings at 8 p.m. every 2nd Tuesday of the month.

O.E.S. MEETING

St. Hilda Chapter #27 O.E.S. has its regular meetings at 7:30 p.m. every 3rd Tuesday of the month. For info, call Kay Johnston at 335-4060.

HOME HELP ASSOCIATION
The Didsbury & District Senior Support Services co-ordinates assistance for seniors. Call 335-4391.

SONS OF NORWAY

Sons of Norway meets the 4th Monday of every month at 8 p.m. at Evergreen Centre in Olds. All welcome. Call 556-2401 or 337-2037 for more information.

CASH BINGO

Didsbury Elks Cash Bingo every Tuesday. Doors open 6:00 p.m., Nickel Bingo at 6:45. Regular Bingo at 7:30 p.m. Didsbury Elks Hall.

LEARNING DISABILITIES

Learning Disabilities of Alberta, Mtn. View Chapter. Support and info for parents and teachers dealing with learning disabilities. For info call Susan at 335-3174.

GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS

Gamblers Anonymous (G.A.) starting Monday, January 22 from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Assembly Room at the Hospital Unit 4. For more information please call 335-8208.

DIDSBURY PRESCHOOL

is now accepting registrations for 2004-2005 school year. This non-profit organization offers educational and social programming for children 3 to 5 years old. For information or to register your child, please call: Cherrie 335-8818 or 335-8039.

DIDSBURY-DIAL-A-BUS

Scheduled transportation for anyone on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays 9 - 3. Please call day prior or by 8:00 a.m. for pick up. 507-0208. Wheelchair accessible. Sponsored by the Didsbury Lions Club.

INFORMATION

Mountain View La Leche League, a group which offers information and support for breastfeeding mothers. We also meet the 3rd Tuesday evenings of each month 10 a.m. Olds Scout Hall. Phone 337-3617 or 556-3807 for information.

DIDSBURY MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

Provides free accessible mental health services. Which inc. assessments, individual family & group counselling & crisis intervention. Mon. to Fri. 8:30-4:00.

OLDS

MEETING

Adoption Support Group of Olds and area meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month. For more information contact Susan at 335-8540.

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SPECIAL FAMILIES RESOURCE ASSOCIATION

Support for families/caregivers of special needs children. Meetings held 1st and 3rd Thurs. of every month in the Didsbury Hospital in the Educational Conference Room at 7 p.m. For more information contact Cindy at 335-4123.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Didsbury Chamber of Commerce meets the 2nd Thursday each month. For more info please call 335-3265.

DIDSBURY TOPS

Take Off Pounds Sensibly! Come and join us every Wednesday evening. For more info call Stacey at 335-4487 or Rosemary 335-2835.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Didsbury Environmental Advisory Board meets once every month at the Town Office. For info call the Town Office 335-3391.

BEAVER'S

Beaver's Tues. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at Eldon Foote Hall. Kids 5 to 7 years old, boys and girls welcome.

DIDSBURY MUSEUM

New Fall hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:30 - 4:30. Saturday: 1 - 5 p.m., special occasions & anytime by appointment. Please call Joan Court at 335-8392 or Larry Hunsperger at 335-3284.

TOY LIBRARY

Child & Youth Clubs of Didsbury Toy Library. (Closed for the Summer) the Anglican Church Hall basement 2037 - 24 Ave. New members always welcome. Kerri at 335-9928.

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Executive Home \$274,900

Split entry 1546 sq. ft. bungalow with full walk out basement. Features show home quality! #60 Westpoint Drive.

Acreage in Town \$325,000

2500 sq. ft. 3 bed plus Den and Studio all on 2 acres of land. #2 Rosebud Bay



\$207,000

This 1229 sq. ft. home shows 100%. Gas fire place, vaulted ceilings. 4 bdms. 78 Westpoint Drive

OPEN HOUSE

January 8th, 2-4pm - \$1000 cash back

134x134
Commercial Lot
Prime Location
\$112,000

SPORTS

Curling Playdowns- Sat. Dec. 18



by Marge St. Clair

This was a great day at the Didsbury Curling Rink when the Zone 2 Curling Playdowns for Seniors (55+ years) were held. 4 teams were competing and were greeted by Mr. Neil Slater, Activity Director for Zone 2 from Beiseker and Mr. Jim Thomson of Olds who took the registrations. All teams

were then taken to the ice surface for a welcome from Mayor Dorothy Moore and Mr. Herman Epp, Pres. of the D.C. Club and pictures.

Curling started at 10:00 a.m. and after a short break for a delicious lunch, commenced again at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. in a round robin series between the teams from Canmore, Drumheller, Three Hills and

by Marge St. Clair

This will be a busy week at the Didsbury Curling Rink when the first ever Canadian Stick Curling Classic will be held from Feb. 15 - 19th. Curlers can choose 1 day to curl and qualify, then 32 qualifying teams play off on Sat. Feb. 19th. This is daytime curling only with a limit of 64 2 person teams.

Pay per win +, Event Winner Prizes. Distant teams can choose Fri. (18th) to play, stay over one night and be set for the play offs on Sat. 19th. Everyone can arrange the curling to suit your own schedule.

Each curler will partake

in a draw to the button contest on the day they curl for some really nice prizes.

Rules of stick curling are very simple

1. Each rock must be delivered with a curling stick.

2. Sweeping is only allowed from the hog line to the back of the house.

3. Each team is comprised of two curlers (men, mixed, women, any age).

4. All games are six ends. In case of a tie, an extra end is played with each player throwing three rocks (skips and throwers exchange ends at midpoint of an extra end).

5. The 3 rock free guard zone applies

6. All rocks must be released from the stick before reaching the hog line, and

from between or touching the 4 foot lines.

7. The two throwing curlers alternately deliver 6 rocks each per end, while the teammate skips that end. Then roles are reversed, and the partners deliver the rocks back.

8. One member of each team stays at each end of the rink, and if a discussion of a shot takes place, it must be done at centre ice.

9. Other rules and etiquette of regular curling apply.

There are many entries already in from near and far, so don't be late in phoning Carson Schultz 335-4954 or Garry Sherman 335-4776 or stickcurl@shaw.ca

Didsbury.

Thanks a million, volunteers.

When the curling was over the Didsbury team with Lee Hunter skip, Vance van Dam,

third; Doug Weigum second and Nick Baran lead had won all 3 games and were presented with the 1st place medals, Canmore placed second and Drumheller third

and all received medals.

Our team will now go on to play in the Seniors Winter Games in Edmonton Feb. 23 - 25th. Good curling there, team!



335-9918
1722 - 20 AVE. DIDSBURY

Open 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. Daily

PIZZA To The MAX

Marinated Fried Chicken, now at Max Pizza!

Max Pizza is now introducing marinated fried chicken to their menu which can be enjoyed by the piece, bucket or in a combo. Two different kinds are offered, western breading or spicy.

On the pizza side of things Max Pizza is now offering "We make you bake". You can purchase the same delicious pizza uncooked and take it home, freeze it, and have it when you want. Also coming soon "pizza by the slice".

What to have for lunch? Max Pizza will soon be opening for lunch. It will be a limited menu of pizza and chicken, but it's the best pizza and chicken around!

Monique Engel, owner, asks you to watch for a flyer coming soon in your mail about the new chicken and its pricing.

Need delivery, no problem, Max Pizza offers free delivery for all orders over \$14.

If you have a chance, stop in and see what Monique has done to the place. It has been painted and brightened up, it is now very colorful.

"We have almost all new staff and they are all wonderful," said Monique.

Pizza to the MAX and now chicken too!

Hours: 3pm to 10pm

Address: 1722 20th Ave

Phone: 335-9918

